The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have reported that the fire engulfed 3 rooms. Due to timely intervention of fire personnel, sizeable records were saved. As per the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, files, papers and documents, numbering 6178 were salvaged in partly burnt of safe but in wet conditions.

The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi constituted a board of four officers to salvage the record and prepare inventory of available files.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have reported that the records room of the Building Department was in separate building at the Primary School which is safe.

Reconstruction of records for properties where action was proposed to be taken has already been started after observing the codal formalities.

Some of the files of unauthorised construction where cognizance was taken recently were burnt which are being reconstructed after fresh field survey and inspection of buildings after consulting the Master Register (Misalband Register) which is safe.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have reported that unauthorised constructions booked in last 2 years is 2123 with the following break-up:—

1.1.91 to 31.12.91—855

1.1.92 to 31.12.92—1268

Sopore Carnage

1068. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Sopore Carnage in Kashmir Valley which took place in January 1993 killing about 100 persons and destroying a large number of houses and shops by setting them on fire;

(b) what is the extent of loss of life and property and compensation paid to the victims;

(c) whether Government have held an enquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what action has been taken against officials found guilty of using excessive force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (e) On 6th January 1993, there was an incident of cross firing between the security forces and the militants in Sopore town, distt. Baramulla, after militants had attacked a BSF party, in which two BSF personnel were injured (one subsequently died) and weapon had been snatched away. In the exchange of fire, 42 persons are reported to have been killed and around 300 houses and shops gutted/damaged by fire. Ex-gratia relief of Rs.1 lac to be paid to the next of kin of each of the deceased innocent persons and relief upto Rs. 1 lac per case of damage to property has been announced under the existing rules, along with assistance in the form of timber and sheets for roofs and three months free ration at the rate of 5 kg per head per month to the families rendered homeless.

The State Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir has ordered a judicial inquiry to be conducted by Mr. Justice Amareet Chaudhary, a sitting judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court. The investigation of the cases registered in connection with this incident, has been transferred to the Central Bureau of Investigation and is progress.

On the basis of preliminary inquiries conducted by the administrative authorities and the BSF, without prejudice to the results of the judicial inquiry/investigation, 9 BSF personnel including the Commandant, have been placed under suspension.